Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2006

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hobelsberger (GB 2264208).

This invention provides a passive energy harvester that can be used to replace batteries in a variety of devices. Passive energy harvesters require no active energy input but harvest the motion or vibration of the environment such as in a moving vehicle or attached to a moving animal or person. It does so by providing an elongated support which may be a membrane for a coil so that external movement or vibration causes motion of the support which moves the coil in a magnetic field so that current is induced in the coil. In a second aspect the invention provides a unique means of rectifying the alternating current produced by the moving coil. Again this is done using a passive harvester in the form of a piezo membrane on the elongated support that is stressed by the movement of the support to produce a voltage that is able to rectify the current.

The citation raised by the examiner is less relevant than the prior art cited by the applicant. It may include magnets, coils, membranes and piezo devices but the arrangement is for a very different purpose.

Hobelsburger discloses a construction for a speaker and addresses a very different problem to the present invention. Hobelsburger does not disclose an elongated support carrying a coil at its free end. It does not disclose a support with a free end. The piezo devices are used to eliminate distortions in the current produced by the moving coils (see p2 lines 10-13 of citation) not to rectify the current.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21854-00057-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 26, 2006 Respectfully submitted,

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